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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicants:

MICHAEL VOTICKY
JOE CONNER

Filed: April 13, 2000

Serial No.: 09/548,201

For: COMMUNICATIONS PRIORITIZER

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Confirmation No. 6646

Art Unit: 2645

Examiner: OVIDIO ESCALANTE

Docket No: 044829.0048

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

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MAY 16 2003

Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop: RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated December 11, 2002, Applicants are filing this Amendment and Request for Continued Examination and respectfully request consideration of the following remarks. A clean copy of the pending claims, i.e. new claims 98-118, is provided below as Attachment A, beginning at page i.

AMENDMENT

Applicants request cancellation of claims 1,3, 4, 53, 64-68, 70 and 74. Claims 5-52, 54-63, 72 and 73 have previously been withdrawn from consideration and claims 2, 69, 71 and 75-97 have been previously been canceled. Following entry of this Amendment claims 98-118 are pending. Rather than amending existing claims, new claims 98-118 are added in order to group dependent claims with their corresponding independent claims, clear up several minor problems with antecedent basis, move certain claim elements from the preamble of the respective claim to the body, and eliminate duplicative claim elements. In addition, independent claims 98, 106 and 113 introduce an added limitation, i.e. that an identifier corresponding to a received message does not require coordination with a sender.

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